

A Guide to the *Procedural Guidance Manual: Addressing Polluted Runoff in the California Coastal Zone*, 2nd Edition (California Coastal Commission, 1996)

The *Procedural Guidance Manual* is one element of a strategy that the Coastal Commission—in partnership with local governments, Regional Water Quality Control Boards, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), and other public and private entities—is implementing to address polluted runoff (nonpoint source pollution) in the coastal zone. The document has three main purposes:

1. To provide staff of the Commission, local governments, and other land use planning and resource management agencies with practical technical and policy guidance for addressing polluted runoff in the context of land use permitting, watershed planning, and ecosystem management;
2. To establish a consistent statewide approach for preventing or controlling polluted runoff within the coastal zone based on (a) a cooperative and coordinated intergovernmental initiative; (b) the application of existing Coastal Act or Local Coastal Program (LCP) policies; and (c) the potential use of special conditions in coastal development permits (CDPs); and
3. To facilitate the application of management measures and Best Management Practices (BMPs) to prevent or control polluted runoff, such as those management measures incorporated into the State's Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program (CNPCP) prepared pursuant to Section 6217(g) of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (CZARA).

The Manual is organized as follows.

Chapter

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| 1 | Chapter 1 - Background presents an overview of technical issues related to polluted runoff including environmental, economic and social (e.g., public health) impacts of polluted runoff, and sources of polluted runoff impacts. Understanding the relationship of watersheds, the hydrologic cycle, and specific land use practices to the transport of pollutants can help coastal planners and resource managers understand how specific management measures and BMPs can be used to prevent or control polluted runoff. |
| 2 | Chapter 2 - Regulatory Setting reviews two federal laws passed to regulate polluted runoff--the Clean Water Act (CWA) and CZARA Section 6217—and their relationship to the California Coastal Management Program (CCMP). Chapter 2 also introduces several technical approaches to address polluted runoff including implementing management measures for (1) urban runoff, (2) agricultural runoff, (3) forestry runoff, (4) marina and recreational boating activities, (5) hydromodification activities, and (6) wetlands and riparian areas. In addition, the chapter lists key recommendations for addressing polluted-runoff issues that were developed by Technical Advisory Committees (TACs) convened during CNPCP preparation. Every land use practice can, individually or cumulatively, increase runoff and impact water quality. Coastal planners can more effectively address polluted runoff if they consider land use practices in the context of coastal watersheds rather than of individual residential, commercial, agricultural or other land use parcels. |
| 3 | Chapter 3 - The California Environmental Quality Act discusses how proposed projects are or can be reviewed under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). |

4	Chapter 4 - The California Coastal Act examines the policies and programs of the Coastal Act, and shows how permitting processes can be used as guidance for coastal planners on the control of polluted runoff generated by development activities.
5	Chapter 5 - Coordination with Local Governments reviews California planning and zoning laws and examines several LCP policies that regulate development in the coastal zone on the local level. In particular, the chapter discusses how local government agencies can use LCPs to review and address new development that may cause polluted runoff, and concludes by identifying approaches to address <i>existing</i> development that contributes to polluted runoff. A major objective of the procedures discussed in Chapters 3 through 5 is to promote early and effective participation in the relevant project review processes. Another important goal of coastal planners is to strive for improved approaches to managing polluted runoff that affects coastal zone resources and uses.
<u>Appendix</u>	Appendix A - Maps of State Hydrologic Planning Areas & Water Quality Summaries: Threatened/Impaired Waterbodies contains (1) maps of the coastal zone boundary superimposed on SWRCB-designated Hydrologic Planning Areas (the latter correspond to coastal watersheds) and (2) land use, water quality, and watershed management information for California's identified Critical Coastal Areas.
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B	Appendix B - Regulatory and Planning Agencies lists names and addresses of federal, State, and local agencies that are involved in polluted runoff prevention or control.
C	Appendix C - CDP Processing Information contains information related to the CDP process and the control of polluted runoff, such as information required in a "complete" CDP application and model special conditions.
D	Appendix D - Polluted Runoff Control Measure Flowcharts contains flowcharts for coastal planners to use when evaluating management measures and BMPs to prevent or control polluted runoff from land use activities.
<u>Other</u>	A List of Acronyms and a Glossary are provided to assist the reader in understanding terms related to polluted runoff. References are listed in a Literature Cited section. Key reference pages are printed on yellow paper, and all pages are dated to indicate any updates. The working version of the Manual is designed to be placed in a three-ring binder to make it easy to update as new policies or tools to control polluted runoff evolve and are identified, or as new watershed management strategies emerge.

The Commission staff hopes that the continuing development and reference to the proposed procedures in the Manual will substantially inform analyses by State, local, and other agency staffs of development that may contribute to polluted runoff, and the recommendations upon which decision-making bodies (e.g., the Coastal Commission or local legislative body) base their regulatory or land use planning decisions.

To obtain a copy, please contact:
California Coastal Commission
Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program
45 Fremont St., Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219
(415) 904-5240